

Appendix C: Acoustical Counting Review

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) was interested in obtaining information related to acoustical counting options for use in determining activity levels at its system airports. VTrans currently uses acoustical counters to gauge activity levels and wanted to compare their data to that available from other data sources.

GCR is one of the providers of a web-based, real-time, flight activity tracking and reporting system using the FAA's Aircraft Situation Display to Industry (ASDI), which originates from the Volpe Transportation Center. GCR provides this information to users through a system called the **Airport IQ Data Center**, which features live flight tracking for arriving and departing aircraft, FAA 5010 data, current airline and airport news, and critical operational activity reports. The data has been stored for the last 2 ½ years on GCR's servers, making it one of the most comprehensive databases of U.S. aircraft activity in the United States.

Drawing from the activity history database, the Data Center provides a series of activity reports which the user can query and print. These reports are described below.

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY LANDING REPORT

The Commercial Activity Landing Report provides a summary of all commercial activity (airline or non-airline) at an airport. This report provides data by operator and by aircraft type, which is valuable for comparing an operator's self-reported landings to actual landings recorded by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) air traffic control (ATC).

MARKET SHARE REPORT

This report provides a summary of the top city-pair markets for the selected airport, including a summary of flights by airline or non-airline for each city-pair. This report is great for route planning and air service development purposes.

DETAILED GENERAL AVIATION ACTIVITY

This report combines general aviation activity with the aircraft ownership database to provide an active view of which general aviation aircraft are operating at the airport. It includes aircraft ownership and which market-pairs are being served by each aircraft. This report is a valuable tool for understanding the nature and character of the general aviation activity at an airport.

CAPACITY REPORT

This option provides instant graphs and charts of daily operations at an airport by selected date ranges. It also provides hourly activity numbers for both arrivals and departures. This report is ideal for airfield and capacity planning purposes.

The data contained in GCR's AirportIQ Data Center will be used to test the usefulness of this data to augment the existing Vermont Acoustical Aircraft Counting Program. The data will also be evaluated to determine its usefulness in providing critical information to augment and update The Economic Impact of Vermont's Public-Use Airport Study.

